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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/653,242	09/03/2003	Akinori Fujita	Q77007	4732
23373	7590	10/04/2005	EXAMINER	
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC 2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W. SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, DC 20037			CHU, JOHN S Y	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1752	

DATE MAILED: 10/04/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/653,242

Applicant(s)

FUJITA ET AL.

Examiner

John S. Chu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 August 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This Office action is in response to the amendment filed August 22, 2005.

This Office action is in response to the application filed September 3, 2003.

1. The rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by FORSTINGER et al '145 is **withdrawn** in view of the arguments by applicant wherein the diazonium group would not be on the aromatic ring.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

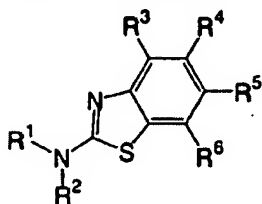
3. Claims 1-5, and 8-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by WALKOW (DD-223265 (published June 5, 1985).

The claimed invention remains is drawn to the following:

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1. A diazonium salt represented by the following general formula (1):

General formula (1)



wherein R¹ and R² each independently represents an alkyl group, an aryl group, an acyl group, an alkoxycarbonyl group or a carbamoyl group, and R¹ and R² may be linked each other to form a ring; and R³, R⁴, R⁵ and R⁶ each independently represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a halogen atom, an alkyl group, an aryl group, an alkoxy group, an aryloxy group, an alkylthio group, an arylthio group, an alkylsulfonyl group, an arylsulfonyl group or a diazonio group, and at least one of R³, R⁴, R⁵ and R⁶ represents the diazonio group.

2. The diazonium salt according to claim 1, and represented by the following general formula (2):

WALKOW discloses a 2-N,N-dialkylamino benzothiazole 6-diazonium salt compound, see the Title and Abstract of the Derwent publication cited.. The examiner notes that the benzothiazole has a diazonium group at the 6-position which anticipates the recited compound recited in claim 1. In addition WALKOW discloses the use of the benzothiazole in a diazo copying material with a coupler. The use of the benzothiazole diazonium compound gives a recording material fast coupling and good storage stability as taught in the Title of the abstract.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over WALKOW (DD-223265, published June 5, 1985).

The claimed invention has been recited above and is included by reference.

WALKOW has been discussed for the disclosure of a 2-N,N-alkylamino benzothiazole 6-diazonium salt compound and for its use in a thermal recording material with a coupler ingredient.

The reference of WALKOW lacks the claimed use of the diazonium compounds which are encapsulated in microcapsules in the image forming layer as recited in claim 6.

It would have been *prima facie* obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art of heat sensitive image forming recording materials based on a diazonium compound and a coupler to add microcapsules to the image layer to improve storage stability and provide improved image formation which the microcapsules are expected to do in recording materials.

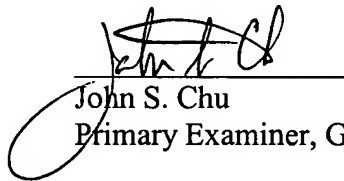
6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Chu whose telephone number is (571) 272-1329. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 9:30 am to 6:00 pm.

The fax phone number for the USPTO is (703) 872-9306.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1700.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PMR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



John S. Chu
Primary Examiner, Group 1700

J.Chu
March 20, 2005